From: Classic de Sign
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 12:31pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Dear Ms. Hesse:

I am the owner of a small interior design firm and would like to comment on the settlement with Microsoft.

I believe that there is undue haste in reaching a settlement for what has been a carefully executed pattern of illegal behavior by Microsoft. Microsoft controlled the application market so tightly in the Macintosh operationg system that it not only drove out competitors like WordPerfect but used its applications as hostage to obtain concesions from Apple Computer, Inc.

The pattern of illegal behavior forced Apple to offer the Microsoft, Internet Explorer to be the supported application by Apple. If this would not have happened, there would have been no Office, Word or Excel. Futhermore, those us who used Netscape still found that the presence of Microsoft codes in the office applications to crash the Netscape browser. The choice for us was the applications or the Netscape browser. The same type of illegal tactics got its media player dominance after finding that they copied code from QuickTime. This issue was closed when Microsoft gave money to Apple to drop the suit.

The patter of illegal tactics by Microsoft is quite large and pervasive and I find the current proposed settlement to be insufficiently punitive to punish or to encourage Microsoft to change its ways.

I strongly suggest that the monetary settlement be cash and that the sum be increased to 5 Billion dollars, a sum that will teach a lesson and one that Microsoft can afford.

Sincerely,

Louis R. de Alvare